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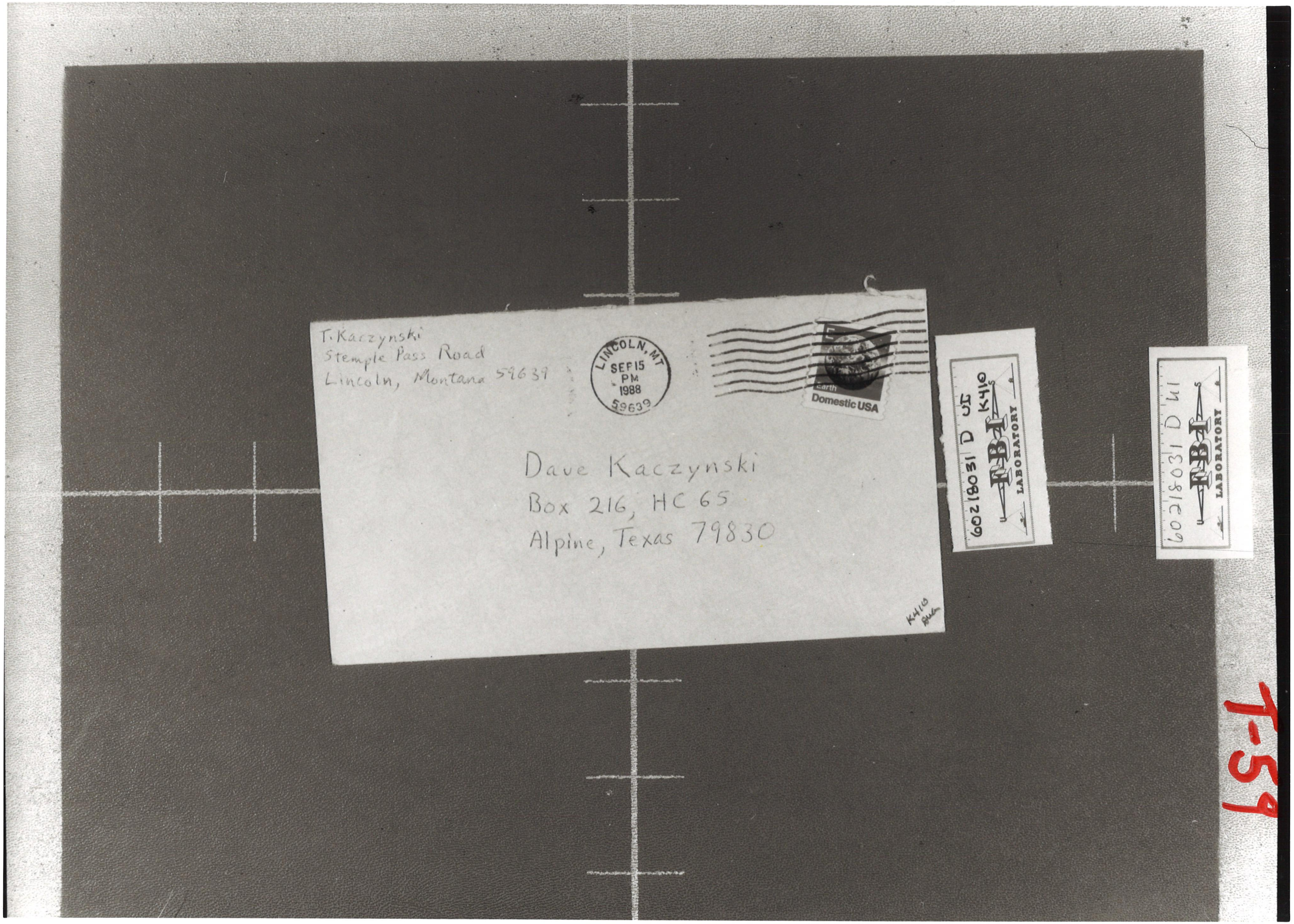

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Lincoln, Montana 59639

LINCOLN, MT
SEP 15
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1988
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Earth
Domestic USA

Dave Kaczynski
Box 216, HC 65
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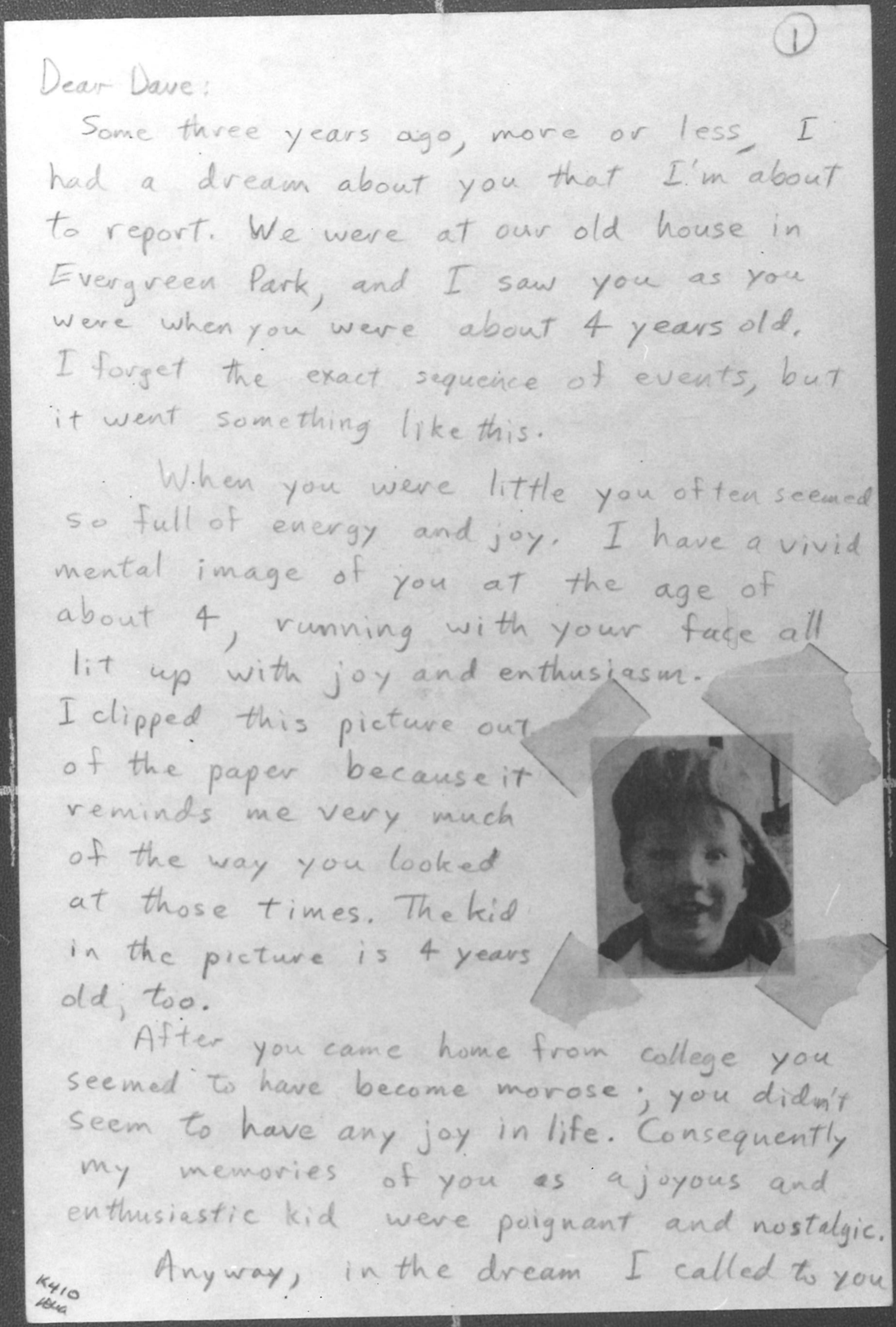

①

Dear Dave:

Some three years ago, more or less, I had a dream about you that I'm about to report. We were at our old house in Evergreen Park, and I saw you as you were when you were about 4 years old. I forget the exact sequence of events, but it went something like this.

When you were little you often seemed so full of energy and joy. I have a vivid mental image of you at the age of about 4, running with your face all lit up with joy and enthusiasm. I clipped this picture out of the paper because it reminds me very much of the way you looked at those times. The kid in the picture is 4 years old, too.

After you came home from college you seemed to have become morose; you didn't seem to have any joy in life. Consequently my memories of you as a joyous and enthusiastic kid were poignant and nostalgic.

Anyway, in the dream I called to you

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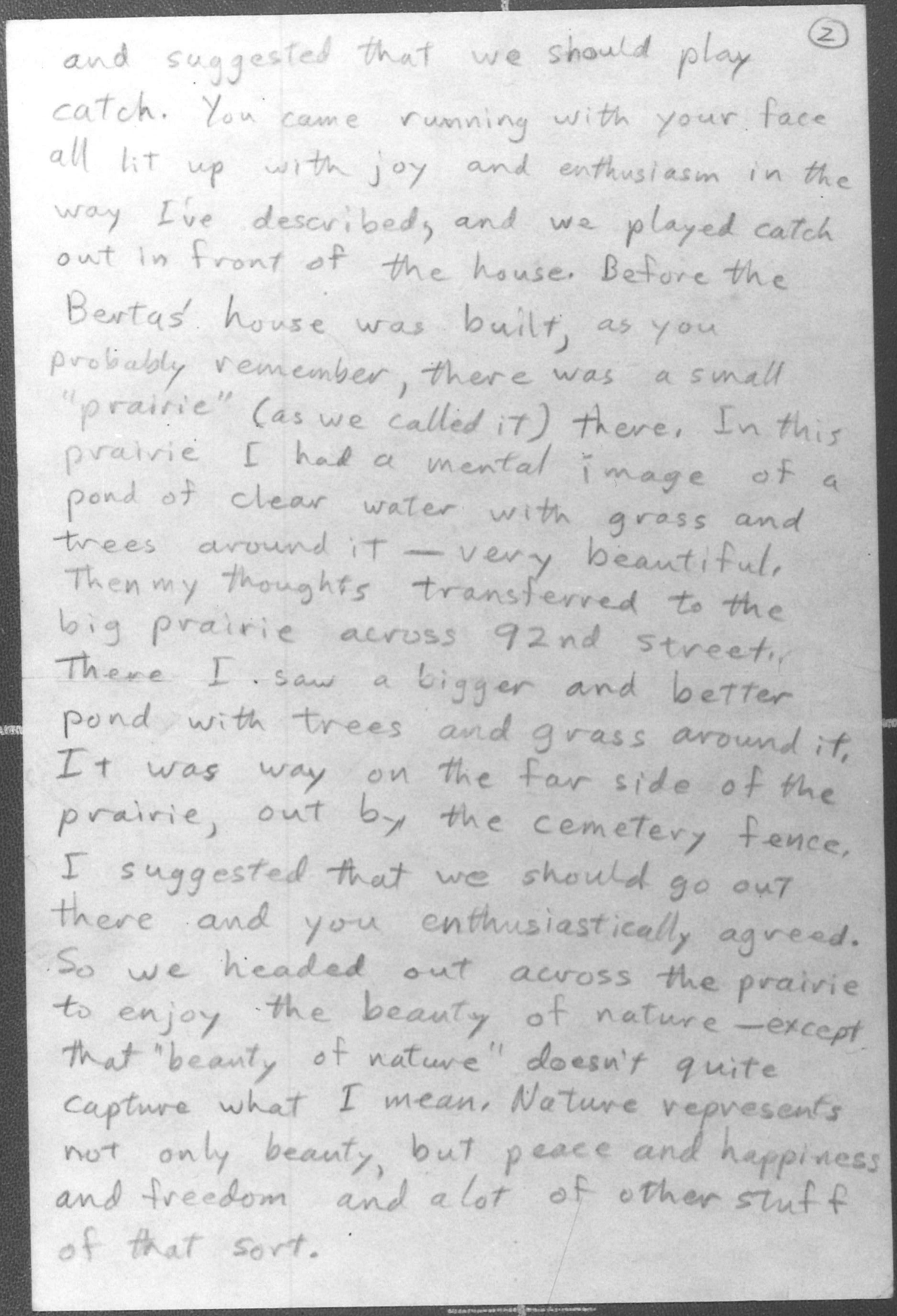

②

and suggested that we should play catch. You came running with your face all lit up with joy and enthusiasm in the way I've described, and we played catch out in front of the house. Before the Bertas' house was built, as you probably remember, there was a small "prairie" (as we called it) there. In this prairie I had a mental image of a pond of clear water with grass and trees around it — very beautiful. Then my thoughts transferred to the big prairie across 92nd street. There I saw a bigger and better pond with trees and grass around it. It was way on the far side of the prairie, out by the cemetery fence. I suggested that we should go out there and you enthusiastically agreed. So we headed out across the prairie to enjoy the beauty of nature — except that "beauty of nature" doesn't quite capture what I mean. Nature represents not only beauty, but peace and happiness and freedom and a lot of other stuff of that sort.

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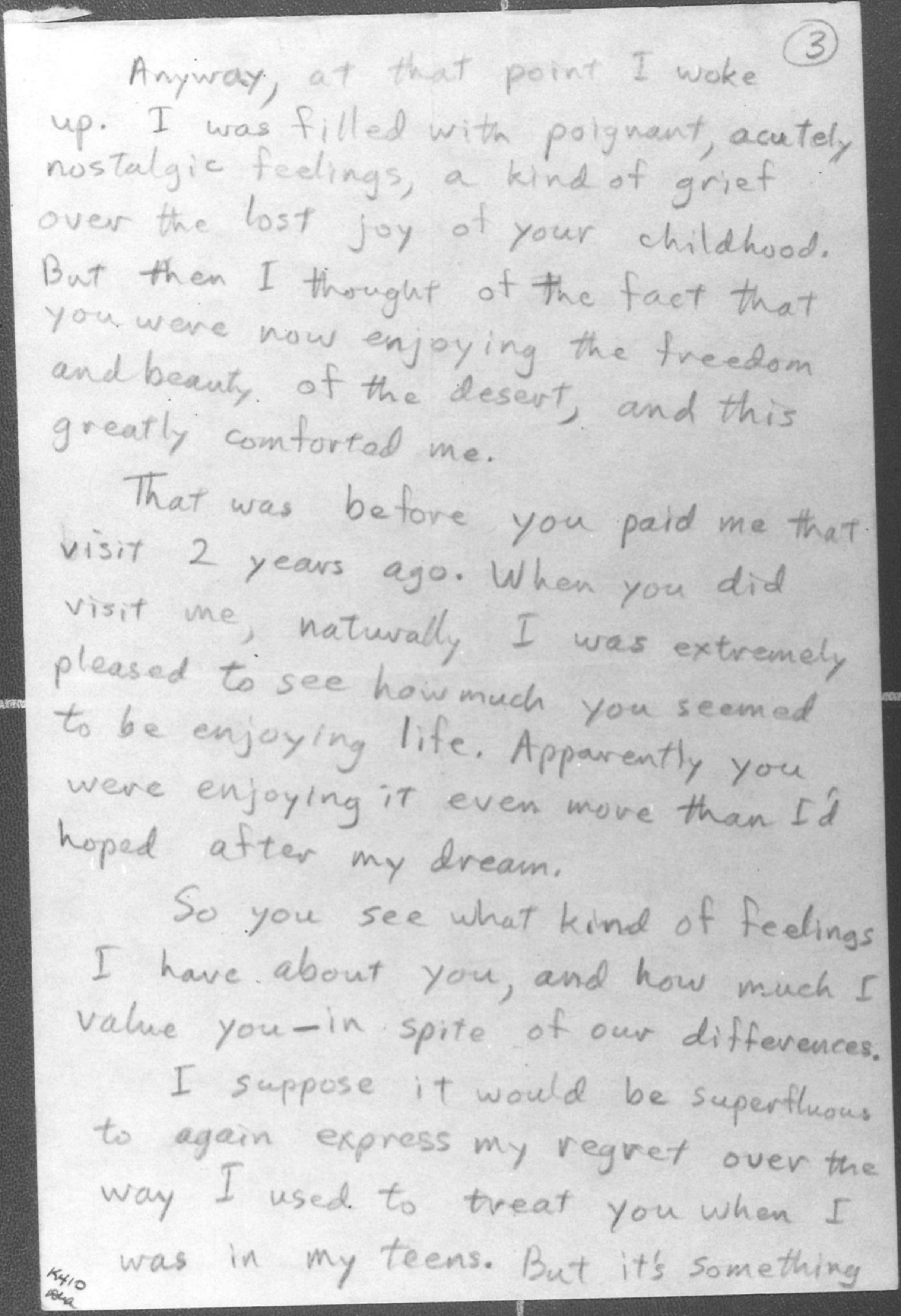

③

Anyway, at that point I woke up. I was filled with poignant, acutely nostalgic feelings, a kind of grief over the lost joy of your childhood. But then I thought of the fact that you were now enjoying the freedom and beauty of the desert, and this greatly comforted me.

That was before you paid me that visit 2 years ago. When you did visit me, naturally I was extremely pleased to see how much you seemed to be enjoying life. Apparently you were enjoying it even more than I'd hoped after my dream.

So you see what kind of feelings I have about you, and how much I value you—in spite of our differences.

I suppose it would be superfluous to again express my regret over the way I used to treat you when I was in my teens. But it's something

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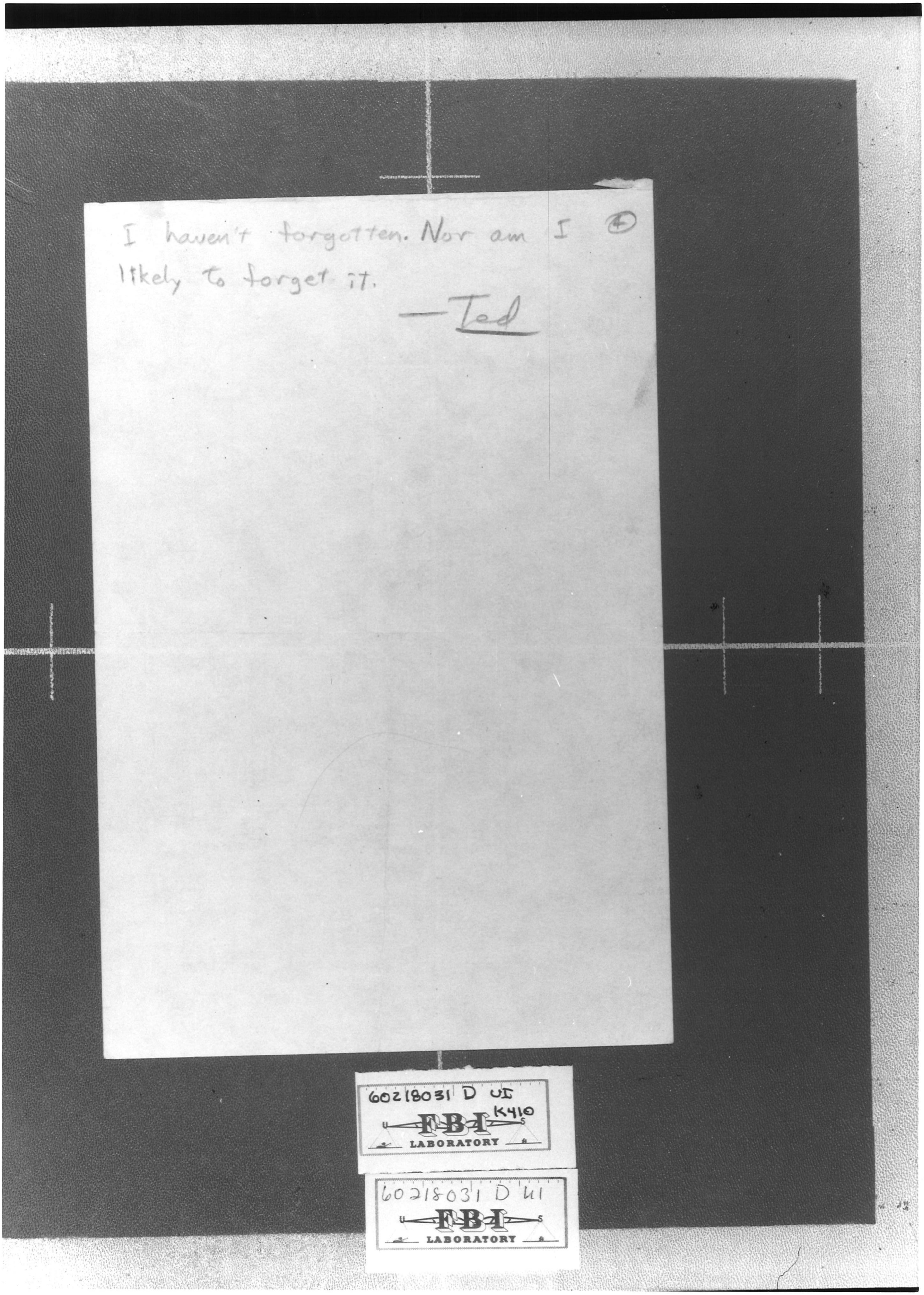

I haven't forgotten. Nor am I ④
likely to forget it.

—Ted

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